

June 2, 2003

WEST VIRGINIA BULLETIN NO. WV-300-3-2

SUBJECT: LTP-EQIP Cost Sharing

Purpose: To clarify issues related to EQIP cost sharing on Animal Use Area Protection, Practice Code 757 (237-i) and Animal Waste Storage Structures, Practice Code 313.

Expiration Date: This bulletin expires: December 31, 2003.

- A. The following guidance is provided regarding the issues related to “Feeding Pads” constructed under the practice standard for “Animal Use Area Protection”, Interim Practice Code 757 (237-i).**
- 1) The primary purpose of Animal Use Area Protection is to protect water quality. In the past, the West Virginia EQIP At-Large Ranking Criteria clearly stated that environmental ranking points (and therefore, cost sharing) were only to be given for this practice for the purpose of relocating an established concentrated winter feeding area away from a stream or concentrated flow area. This guidance still applies. This practice is eligible for EQIP cost sharing, only if it will solve an existing resource problem related to protecting water quality. Documentation of the existing problem will be included in the case file, such as narrative, location of “before” and “after” sites on aerial photos, photographs, etc.**
 - 2) The design criteria for Animal Use Area Protection states: “This practice shall be planned, designed, and installed as part of a Waste Management System (312)”. (Code 312 has recently been eliminated due to the establishment of Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMP). This language will be corrected in the next revision of the Animal Use Area Protection standard.) Animal Use Area Protection requires that a waste utilization plan be prepared, and that the O&M plan complements the waste utilization plan.**

- 3) **EQIP cost sharing is not authorized for roofing of Animal Use Area Protection.**
 - 4) **EQIP cost sharing is not authorized for Animal Use Area Protection within a 25 year floodplain.**
 - 5) **EQIP cost sharing is authorized for no more than the maximum surface area recommended in the standard for the situation being addressed. For example, if the area is being used as a feeding pad only, 75 sq. ft. per animal is the maximum surface area to be cost shared.**
 - 6) **No EQIP cost sharing is to be provided on feed bunkers, internal fencing and gates, or electrical wiring.**
- B. Questions have also been asked relating to Waste Storage Structures, Code 313. The following guidance is provided regarding Waste Storage Structures:**
- 1) **Waste Storage Structures (Code 313) may be roofed and EQIP cost sharing provided for the roof.**
 - 2) **Waste Storage Structures are to be installed as a component of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP). Refer to the National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH), Amendment 4 (dated March, 2003), Part 600.5 "CNMP Technical Guidance" for additional information. Rick Heaslip, SRC, provided training on development of CNMP's at the October 2002 Conservation Partnership Conference. Rick also provided an electronic template for use in developing CNMP's. A CNMP is required for any waste storage structure.**
 - 3) **To be eligible for EQIP cost sharing, the waste storage structure must solve an existing waste storage problem related to an existing concentrated livestock situation.**
 - 4) **Documentation of the existing problem will be included in the case file, such as narratives, aerial photos, photographs, etc.**

- 5) **The 313 standard specifies that livestock shall be fenced out of a manure stacking facility.**

If you have questions contact Jim Piper, ASTC-Operations Management, at (304) 284-7543.

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